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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I don't feel particularly verbose today, but I've written and read much on the reasons Microsoft must be broken into a minimum of two companies.

Microsoft owns the OS which is fine. Microsoft also makes applications for their OS which is not fine. Why? Microsoft does not fairly publish the specification of the interface to their OS. When Microsoft builds an application and another company builds a competing application, Microsoft is guaranteed to build the better application because they have intimate knowledge of the OS. Microsoft knows how to optimize their applications in ways their competitor cannot know.

Any settlement which stops short of breaking Microsoft into an OS company and an applications company is in my view and the view of many others a lost settlement.

Sheldon